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refuge on a British man-of-war with Governor Martin and soon after sailed for Scotland *via* Lisbon. The Journal closes with an account of experiences as a tourist in Portugal.

Valuable as are these sketches of colonial life, they are matched in quality by the work of the editors. The introduction is all that such an essay should be, an appreciation of the fine traits of the main character by a sympathetic and kindred soul. The foot-notes and the appendixes, the latter consisting of fourteen short essays, contain such wide information regarding colonial affairs and the beginning of the Revolution in North Carolina, much of it hitherto undisclosed, as to make the book a kind of *vade mecum*, an indispensable work of reference for all who would read deeply in West Indian and North Carolina affairs in the years 1774 and 1775.

The maps, the illustrations, and the press work are excellent. The North Carolina Society of Colonial Dames has shared in the cost of publication.

WILLIAM K. BOYD.

*The Papers of Thomas Ruffin.* Collected and edited by J. G. DE ROULHAC HAMILTON, Alumni Professor of History in the University of North Carolina. Volume IV. [Publications of the North Carolina Historical Commission.] (Raleigh: the Commission. 1920. Pp. 403.)

THIS closing volume of the *Ruffin Papers*, like all its predecessors, offers much that is valuable to the historian and the political scientist. In many of the letters one finds earnest expression of the deep-seated fear of popular government. For example, the able Irishman, Edward Conigland, of Halifax, says (1866), "immigration would doubtless be a blessing to us, provided we could always control it, and make it entirely subservient to our wants" (p. 45). On a later page he writes that he is sure the great judge, Ruffin, has no patience with the idea of popular sovereignty, "namely, the indefeasible right of a mere numerical majority to have all power vested in their hands" (p. 62). And Judge Ruffin himself says (p. 69) that all constitutional conventions in North Carolina since 1776 have made matters worse, that is, each of the great struggles in that state to give the majority more control over public affairs had only resulted in making things worse. Some day some historian will make an international reputation by tracing the history of the struggle for democracy in the United States. It was not merely in the Southern states that men feared the majority with an ineradicable fear. In every state of the North there was the same fear and the same anxious contrivance to thwart democracy in the home of democracy.

There is an exceptionally suggestive letter (p. 233) from Frank G. Ruffin of Virginia. It is a sort of family history of the Ruffins and

Roanes of Virginia. It relates the story that Colonel William Roane, of Virginia, undertook to punish a Tory for some offence. He stripped the Tory, tied him fast to a tree in a swamp swarming with mosquitoes, and left him over night thus exposed. The next morning he found his victim dead (p. 238). On a later page the writer says that the Roane family was connected by marriage with Washington, "whom sentimentalists love to compare in attributes with the Virgin Mary, . . . though the family never claimed the relationship" (p. 244). To be a cousin of George Washington and never claim it, in Virginia! In the Roane circles political convictions must certainly have been deeply set. This is one of several bits of evidence I have seen in Southern documents that Washington's nationalist leadership in 1787-1789 was more deeply resented than historians have suspected. If only the papers of Willy Jones and Rawlins Lowndes might be discovered and brought to light by some argus-eyed scholar!

In addition to the revelations of political sentiment, there is abundant evidence of the extent of the economic devastation wrought by the Civil War in North Carolina, evidence of the hopelessness of great numbers of people as well as of the resolute will of others to make the best of their calamities and quickly make their way back into proper federal relations. President Johnson's problem in the South is made clearer by these letters. It was not an easy one. Besides the letters, which make up the bulk of the volume, there are excerpts from the more important judicial decisions of Chief Justice Ruffin showing a good deal of the social and economic life of one of the older Southern commonwealths.

*A History of California: the Spanish Period.* By CHARLES E. CHAPMAN, Ph.D. (New York: Macmillan Company. 1921. Pp. 527. \$4.00.)

THIS work, although intended for the general public, is in most senses a definitive scholarly treatment of the subject. The author, who for two years held the Native Sons Travelling Fellowship and under it conducted researches in Spain, is a recognized authority on the Spanish sources for California history. The volume before us proves that he has mastered the difficult art of historical synthesis, and his literary style, while not distinguished, is sound, perspicuous, and reasonably engaging.

The volume contains thirty-five short chapters, an admirable bibliographical appendix, and a good index. There are three maps and also three portraits. One might be disposed to cavil at the paucity of the illustrative material, in view of the purpose of the book, and a more liberal use of both maps and pictures no doubt would have added to its usefulness. But illustrations are a publisher's problem quite as much as an author's problem.

In his introductory chapter on the Effects of Geography upon Cal-